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(54) **ARTICLE CARRIER AND BLANK THEREFOR**

ARTIKELTRÄGER SOWIE ZUSCHNITT DAFÜR

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Description

[0001] The invention relates to a carton produced for packaging a plurality of articles, for example, bottles. More particularly, the invention relates to a carton which attaches to the tops of the articles thereby securing the articles in an array.

[0002] It is known to provide top gripping cartons which comprise so called "sunburst" apertures having a series of circumferentially arranged tabs which enable a bottle top to pass through the aperture which tabs engage on the underside of a bottle top or on the flange of a bottle neck to prevent the removal of the bottle from the aperture. A problem arises when such sunburst type apertures are used for bottles sealed using so called "crown corks". In this case, the location in which the tab engages on the underside of the bottle top is by its location high up the bottle neck, which creates a carton that is unstable. Further, the tabs are weakened by the unstable nature of the bottles within the carton so reducing its effectiveness.

[0003] In US 3 772 945 there is shown a carrier with a top panel comprising support tabs to support the upper part of an article contained in the carrier.

[0004] A further problem associated with the prior art is that a top gripping carton needs to be of sufficient strength to support the bottles. A rigid structure would address this problem but produces its own difficulties. In particular, the top panel and or base panel does not provide requisite rigidity and sufficient strength to support the bottles.

[0005] The present invention and its preferred embodiments seek to overcome the difficulties by forming a box structure in which both the top and base are engaged on the bottle flanges. Additional support is provided to maintain the top and base panels in a spaced arrangement while additional strength is provided by multi-layering the panels. Therefore, the board can be reduced in thickness without reducing the strength needed to hold the bottles.

[0006] One aspect of the present invention provides a carton of the top gripping type for accommodating a plurality of containers, which carton is tubular in structure and comprises first and second spaced panels, the first panel having a plurality of apertures for receiving the containers, each of the apertures being defined by at least one foldable retaining tab for operatively engaging an underside of a radially protruding part of a respective one of the containers, the second panel comprising a support tab struck from the second panel. The support tab comprises a main portion hingedly connected to the second panel and a first shoulder portion hingedly connected to the main portion so as to engage the underside of the radially protruding part of one of the containers to restrict movement of the second panel relative to the container.

[0007] According to an optional feature of this aspect of the invention, each aperture may be defined by a pair

of retaining tabs struck from the first panel, the retaining tabs being disposed in substantially opposed positions, at least one of the retaining tabs having a shallow notch for receiving an edge of the shoulder portion to allow the edge to reach the radially protruding part of the container.

[0008] According to another optional feature of this aspect of the invention, the support tab may further comprise a second shoulder portion for engaging the underside of a radially protruding part of a container adjacent to the one container, the second shoulder portion being oppositely disposed the first shoulder portion.

[0009] According to another optional feature of this aspect of the invention, the main portion of the support tab may be folded inwardly of the carton.

[0010] According to yet another optional feature of this aspect of the invention, the shoulder portion may be spaced from the top panel.

[0011] According to a further optional feature of this aspect of the invention, the main portion may be disposed between one container and an adjacent container to minimise relative movement between the one and adjacent containers.

[0012] According to a still further optional feature of this aspect of the invention, the support tab may abut the second panel to minimize relative movement between the first panel and the second panel.

[0013] A second aspect of the invention provides a unitary blank for forming a carton of the top gripping type which comprises a first panel having a plurality of apertures each defined by at least one foldable retaining tab hingedly connected to the first panel to be folded out a general plane of the first panel, and a second panel spaced from the first panel by an intermediate panel and having a tab support struck therefrom, the support tab comprising a main portion and a shoulder portion characterised in that the support tab being displaceable out of a plane of said second panel so that an end edge of the main portion abuts the first panel and the shoulder panel is juxtaposed to one of the retaining tabs when the carton is set up.

[0014] Preferably, the main portion of the support tab may be hingedly connected to the second panel along a fold line, and the shoulder portion may be hingedly connected to the main portion, an edge of the shoulder portion being spaced from the fold line.

[0015] A third aspect of the invention provides a package comprising at least one container each including a substantially cylindrical upper portion and a part radially protruding from the upper portion, and a carton accommodating the at least one container and having a top panel disposed over the upper portion of the at least one container. The top panel has a support tab struck therefrom. The support tab comprises a main portion hingedly connected to the top panel along a first fold line and a shoulder portion hingedly connected to the main portion along a second fold line extending transversely of the first fold line. The support tab is folded along the first

and second fold lines so that an edge of the shoulder portion is disposed in engagement with an underside of the radially protruding part of one of the at least one container whereby load of the one container is transferred directly to the top panel when the package is lifted by the top panel.

[0016] Preferably, the carton may be of a tubular structure, and the main portion of the support tab may be folded inwardly of the carton.

[0017] According to an optional feature of the third aspect of the invention, the edge of the shoulder portion may be an upper edge of the shoulder portion spaced from the top panel.

[0018] According to another optional feature of the third aspect of the invention, the main portion may be disposed between one container and an adjacent container to minimise relative movement between the one and adjacent containers.

[0019] According to a further optional feature of the third aspect of the invention, the carton may be of a top gripping type having a base panel opposed to the top panel, and the support tab abuts the base panel to minimise relative movement between the top and base panels.

[0020] In the drawings:

FIGURE 1 is a plan view of an unfolded single paperboard blank from which a carton according to the invention is formed;

FIGURES 2 and 3 illustrate a carton in part formed condition from the carton blank shown in Figure 1;

FIGURE 4 shows a carton formed from the blank shown in Figure 1.

Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiment

[0021] Referring now to Figure 1, there is shown a carton blank 10 for forming a top gripping carton and made from paperboard or similar foldable sheet material. The blank 10 comprises an inner top panel 12, a first side panel 14, a base panel 16, a second side panel 18, and an outer top panel 20 hingably connected one to the next along fold lines 22, 24, 26 and 28 respectively.

[0022] Three support tabs 30 are struck from inner top panel 12 being laterally aligned and spaced intermediate the side edges of inner top panel 12. Each tab 30 is hingably connected to inner top panel 12 along a respective one of fold lines 32, being configured and longitudinally intermediate the end edge of panel 12 and fold line 22.

[0023] Turning to the detail of one of the support tabs 30, it comprises a main portion 34 and a pair of shoulder portions 36, 38 hingably connected to opposing side edges of main portion 34 along fold lines 40, 42. Each shoulder portion, 36, 38 comprises a substantially linear upper edge 44 and 46 respectively each edge 44, 46

being in an angular relationship with main portion 34, and shaped to engage the underside of a radially protruding part of an article when the carton is in a set up condition. It is envisaged that the position and shape of these edges 44, 46 will vary according to the shape of the radially protruding part of the article. Optionally, the main portion 34 is approximately equal in length to side panels 14, 18. The two further support tabs 30 each comprise a main portion and shoulder portion being similar in shape and configuration to the support tab hereinbefore described and are therefore not described in any greater detail.

[0024] As illustrated in Figure 1, base panel 16 is formed with three pairs of retaining tabs 74, 75, 76 being struck from base panel 16 adjacent to fold line 24 and laterally spaced intermediate the side edges of base panel 16. Turning in detail to the configuration of one pair of retaining tabs 74, there comprises tab 48 is struck from and hingably connected to base panel 16 along fold line 24 with its distal edge 52 extending inwardly of base panel 16. Tab 48 comprises opposed side edges 54, 56 which curve outwardly to the distal edge 52, such that the distal edge 52 is longer than the edge 60 connecting to base panel 16. A second tab 50 is hingably connected to base panel 16 along fold line 62 positioned in a central region of base panel 16. Tab 50 is oppositely disposed to tab 48 with its distal edge 64 juxtaposed the distal edge 52 of tab 48. Likewise, the side edges 66, 68 are curved outwardly towards its distal edge 64 to provide an distal edge 64 which is longer than fold line 62 connected to the base panel 16. The curved side edges 54, 56; 66, 68 of tabs 48 and 50 respectively define a substantially circular aperture 70, shown in Figure 2, when the tabs 48, 50 are in a set up condition. Preferably, an elongate aperture 72 is struck from the central portion of tabs 48 and 50 to provide a small notch along each of their respective distal edges 52, 64.

[0025] The other two pairs of retaining tabs 75, 76 are substantially identical to the first pair of retaining tabs 74 and are not therefore described in any greater detail.

[0026] Base panel 16 is also formed with three further pairs of retaining tabs 78, 80, 82 being struck from base panel 16 adjacent to fold line 26 and laterally spaced intermediate side edges of base panel 16. Turning in detail to the configuration of one pair of retaining tabs 78, there comprises tab 84 is struck from and hingably connected to base panel 16 along fold line 26 with its distal edge 86 extending inwardly. Tab 84 comprises opposed side edges 88, 90 which curve outwardly to the distal edge 86, such that the distal edge 86 is longer than the edge connecting to base panel 16. A second tab 92 is hingably connected to base panel 94 positioned in a central region of base panel 16. Tab 92 is oppositely disposed to tab 84 with its distal edge 96 juxtaposed the distal edge 86 of tab 48. Likewise, the side edges 98, 100 are curved outwardly towards its distal edge 96 to provide an distal edge 96 which is longer than fold line 94 connected to the base panel 16. The

curved side edges 88, 90; 98, 100 of tabs 84 and 92 respectively define a substantially circular aperture 102, shown in Figure 2, when the tabs 84, 92 are in a set up condition. Preferably, an elongate aperture 104 is struck from the central portion of tabs 84 and 92 to provide a small notch along each of their respective distal edges 86, 96.

[0027] The other two pairs of retaining tabs 80, 82 are substantially identical to the first pair of retaining tabs 48, 50 and are not therefore described in any greater detail.

[0028] Side panel 14 comprises three apertures 106 struck from fold line 22 being spaced one to next intermediate side edges of side panel 14. Each aperture 106 is "yoke" like in shape to define a portion 108 of panel 12 which extends into side panel 14. Likewise, side panel 18 comprise three apertures 110 struck from fold line 28 each being spaced one to next intermediate side edges of side panel 18. Each aperture 110 is "yoke" like in shape to define a portion 112 of panel 20 which extends into side panel 18.

[0029] As illustrated in Figure 1, a handle tab 114 is struck from and hingably connected to a central portion of outer top panel 20 along fold line 116. In this embodiment, handle tab 114 is substantially aligned with central support tab 30 of inner top panel 12 when the carton is in a set up condition.

[0030] Turning to the construction of carton, as illustrated in Figures 2, 3 and 4, the blank requires a series of sequential folding and gluing operations which can be performed in a straight line machine so that the carton is not required to be rotated or inverted to complete its construction. The folding process is not limited to that described below and can be altered according to particular manufacturing requirements. Thus, bottles B are grouped together in two rows of three bottles B and the blank 10 is introduced to the group from above by relative vertical movement between the bottles B and the blank 10 during forward feed movement well known in the art.

[0031] Each pair of retaining tabs 74, 75, 76 and 78, 80, 82 are folded along their respective fold lines 24, 62; 26, 94 and out of their general plane with respect to base panel 16 to create article receiving apertures 70, 102 shown in Figure 2. The upper portions or neck portions of the bottles enter their respective apertures until the distal edges 52, 64; 86 of the retaining tabs come into contact with the radially protruding parts, e.g., the respective crown corks, of the bottles B associated with in each of the apertures. Optionally, the edge of each article receiving apertures are in contact with the neck portion of each of the respective bottles B to provide additional support.

[0032] In this embodiment, the notch formed in the distal edge of each of the tabs 48, 50; 84, 92 engages the underside of the respective crown cork C. It is advantageous to incorporate such notches for more accurate alignment of the tabs and/or to provide a tab which

comes into contact with more of the underside of the crown cork than conventional tabs.

[0033] Thereafter, side panel 14 is folded about fold line 24 and inner top panel 12 is folded about fold line 22 so that inner top panel 12 is disposed over the crown corks C and in a substantially parallel and spaced relationship with base panel 16. Support tabs 30 are folded along fold lines 32 out of their general plane and towards base panel 16. In this embodiment, the distal edge of main portions 34 abut base panel 16 to maintain the spacing between panels 12 and 16 thereby to minimize relative movement between bottles and/or base panel 16 and top panels 12, 20. Shoulder panels 36 and 38 are folded out of alignment with main portion 34 of each tab 30 along fold lines 40, 42 respectively. By this means, the upper edge 44, 46 of each shoulder portion 36, 38 is received in the notch along the distal edge of the respective retaining tab and is thereby allowed to reach the crown cork C of the adjacent bottle to engage the underside of the crown cork C as shown in Figure 3. Thus, the main portion 34 is maintained in an angular relationship with respect to top panel 12. In addition, the tabs 50, 92 formed from base panel 16 are also held in place by being in a face to face relationship with respective ones of the shoulder panels 36, 38, as shown in Figure 3.

[0034] Side panel 18 is folded about fold line 26 and outer top panel 20 is folded about fold line 28 such that outer top panel 20 is placed in a face to face relationship with inner top panel 12. Inner and outer top panels 12, 20 are secured together by glue or other means known in the art. The carton is in a set up condition as shown in Figure 4.

[0035] By folding inner and outer top panels 12, 20 out of alignment with respective ones of the side walls 14, 18, the extended portions 108, 112 protrude beyond fold lines 22 and 26 respectively. In this embodiment, part of the crown corks C of each bottle protrude through apertures 106, 110 with the extended portions 108, 112 of panels 12 and 20 respectively being in registry with the top of the protruding portions of each respective bottle. Optionally, side panels 14 and 18 are juxtaposed to respective retaining tabs 48, 84 of base panel 16 to assist in maintaining their engagement with the underside of the crown corks.

[0036] In use, handle tab 114 is folded inwardly along fold line 116 to create a hand aperture to receive a user's finger to enable the carton to be carried. Because the support tabs 30 engage the crown corks C of the packaged bottles, the load of the bottles is transferred directly to the top wall when the carton is lifted by the hand aperture.

[0037] The present invention and its preferred embodiment relate to an article carrier which is shaped to provide satisfactory strength to hold bottles securely but with a degree of flexibility so that load transferred to the handle is absorbed by the carrier. The shape of the blank minimizes the amount of paperboard required and the

carrier can be applied to an array of bottles by hand or automatic machinery. It is anticipated that the invention can be applied to a variety of carrier and not limited to those of the top gripping sort.

Claims

1. A carton of the top gripping type for accommodating a plurality of containers, which carton is tubular in structure and comprises first and second spaced panels (16, 12), said first panel having a plurality of apertures (70, 102) for receiving said containers, at least one foldable retaining tab (48, 50) **hingedly connected to said first panel** for operatively engaging an underside of a radially protruding part of a respective one of said containers, said second panel (12) comprising a support tab (30) struck from said second panel, **characterised in that** said support tab comprising a main portion (34) hingedly connected to said second panel and a first shoulder portion (36) hingedly connected to said main portion so as to engage said underside of said radially protruding part of one of said containers to restrict movement of said second panel relative to said one container.
2. The carton according to claim 1 wherein each said aperture is defined by a pair of said retaining tabs (48, 50) struck from said first panel (16), said retaining tabs being disposed in substantially opposed positions, at least one of said retaining tabs (48, 50) having a shallow notch for receiving an edge (44, 46) of said shoulder portion (36, 38) to allow said edge to reach said radially protruding part of said one container.
3. The carton according to claim 1 or 2 wherein said support tab (30) further comprises a second shoulder portion (38) for engaging the underside of a radially protruding part of a container adjacent to said one container, said second shoulder portion being oppositely disposed said first shoulder portion (36).
4. The carton according to claims 1 to 3 wherein said main portion (34) of said support tab (30) is folded inwardly of said carton.
5. The carton according to claims 1 to 4 wherein said shoulder portion (36, 38) is spaced from said top panel (12).
6. The carton according to claims 1 to 5 wherein said main portion (34) is disposed between said one container and an adjacent container to minimise relative movement between said one and adjacent containers.
7. The carton according to claims 1 to 6 wherein said support tab (30) abuts said first panel (16) to minimise relative movement between said first and second panels.
8. A unitary blank (10) for forming a carton of a top gripping type which comprises a first panel (16) having a plurality of apertures (70, 102) each defined in part by at least one foldable retaining tab (48, 50) hingedly connected to said first panel (16) to be folded out of a general plane of said first panel, and a second panel (12) spaced from said first panel by an intermediate panel (14) and having a support tab (30) struck therefrom, said support tab comprising a main portion (34) and a shoulder portion (36, 38), **characterised in that** said support tab being displaceable out of a plane of said second panel so that an end edge of said main portion abuts said first panel (16) and said shoulder portion (36, 38) is juxtaposed to one of said retaining tabs (50) when said carton is set up.
9. The blank according to claim 8 wherein said main portion (34) of said support tab (30) is hingedly connected to said second panel (12) along a fold line (32), and said shoulder portion (36, 38) is hingedly connected to said main portion, an edge (44, 46) of said shoulder portion being spaced from said fold line.
10. A package comprising at least one container each including a substantially cylindrical upper portion and a part radially protruding from said upper portion; and a carton accommodating said at least one container and having a top panel (12) disposed over said upper portion of said at least one container, wherein said top panel has a support tab (30) struck therefrom, said support tab comprising a main portion (34) hingedly connected to said top panel (12) along a first fold line (32) and a shoulder portion (36, 38) hingedly connected to said main portion along a second fold line (40, 42) extending transversely of said first fold line, said support tab being folded along said first and second fold lines so that an edge (44, 46) of said shoulder portion is disposed in engagement with an underside of said radially protruding part of one of said at least one container whereby load of said one container is transferred directly to said top panel (12) when said package is lifted by said top panel.
11. The package according to claim 10 wherein said carton is of a tubular structure, and said main portion (34) of said support tab (30) is folded inwardly of said carton.
12. The package according to claim 10 or claim 11 wherein said edge (44, 46) of said shoulder portion

(36, 38) is an upper edge of said shoulder portion spaced from said top panel (12).

13. The package according to any of claims 10 to 12 wherein said main portion(34) is disposed between said one container and an adjacent container to minimise relative movement between said one and adjacent containers.
14. The package according to any of claims 10 to 13 wherein said carton is of a top gripping type having a base panel (16) opposed to said top panel (12), and said support tab (30) abuts said base panel to minimise relative movement between said top and base panels.
15. A blank for forming a package as claimed in any of claims 10 to 14.

Patentansprüche

1. Schachtel des oberteilgreifenden Typs zum Unterbringen einer Vielzahl von Behältern, wobei die Schachtel eine röhrenförmige Struktur aufweist und erste und zweite beabstandete Wandflächen (16, 12) umfasst, wobei die erste Wandfläche eine Vielzahl von Öffnungen (70, 102) zum Aufnehmen der Behälter aufweist, sowie wenigstens eine faltbare Rückhaltelasche (48, 50), die gelenkig mit der ersten Wandfläche verbunden ist, um operativ eine Unterseite eines radial abstehenden Teils eines jeweiligen Behälters in Eingriff zu nehmen, wobei die zweite Wandfläche (12) eine Stützlasche (30) umfasst, die aus der zweiten Wandfläche ausgestanzt ist, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die Stützlasche einen Hauptabschnitt (34) umfasst, der gelenkig mit der zweiten Wandfläche verbunden ist, sowie einen ersten Schulterabschnitt (36), der gelenkig mit dem Hauptabschnitt verbunden ist, um die Unterseite des radial abstehenden Teils eines der Behälter in Eingriff zu nehmen, um die Bewegung der zweiten Wandfläche relativ zum Behälter einzuschränken.
2. Schachtel nach Anspruch 1, wobei jede der Öffnungen von einem Paar der Rückhaltelaschen (48, 50) definiert ist, die aus der ersten Wandfläche (16) ausgestanzt sind, wobei die Rückhaltelaschen in im Wesentlichen gegenüberliegenden Positionen angeordnet sind, und wenigstens eine der Rückhaltelaschen (48, 50) eine flache Kerbe aufweist, um eine Kante (44, 46) des Schulterabschnitts (36, 38) aufzunehmen, um der Kante zu erlauben, den radial abstehenden Teil des einen Behälters zu erreichen.
3. Schachtel nach Anspruch 1 oder 2, wobei die Stütz-
- lasche (30) ferner einen zweiten Schulterabschnitt (38) umfasst, um die Unterseite eines radial abstehenden Teils eines an den einen Behälter angrenzenden Behälters in Eingriff zu nehmen, wobei der zweite Schulterabschnitt gegenüber dem ersten Schulterabschnitt (36) angeordnet ist.
4. Schachtel nach einem der vorstehenden Ansprüche, wobei der Hauptabschnitt (34) der Stützlasche (30) in das Innere der Schachtel gefaltet ist.
5. Schachtel nach einem der vorstehenden Ansprüche, wobei der Schulterabschnitt (36, 38) von der Deckenwandfläche (12) beabstandet ist.
6. Schachtel nach einem der vorstehenden Ansprüche, wobei der Hauptabschnitt (34) zwischen dem einen Behälter und einem angrenzenden Behälter angeordnet ist, um die relative Bewegung zwischen dem einen und angrenzenden Behältern zu minimieren.
7. Schachtel nach einem der vorstehenden Ansprüche, wobei die Stützlasche (30) an die erste Wandfläche (16) anstößt, um die relative Bewegung zwischen der ersten und zweiten Wandfläche zu minimieren.
8. Einteiliger Zuschnitt (10) zum Ausbilden einer Schachtel eines oberteilgreifenden Typs, die eine erste Wandfläche (16) umfasst, mit einer Vielzahl von Öffnungen (70, 102), die jede zum Teil durch wenigstens eine faltbare Rückhaltelasche (48, 50) definiert ist, die gelenkig mit der ersten Wandfläche (16) verbunden sind, um aus der Ebene der ersten Wandfläche herausgefaltet zu werden, sowie eine zweite Wandfläche (12), die von der ersten Wandfläche durch eine Zwischenwandfläche (14) beabstandet ist und eine daraus ausgestanzte Stützlasche (30) aufweist, wobei die Stützlasche einen Hauptabschnitt (34) und einen Schulterabschnitt (36, 38) umfasst, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die Stützlasche aus einer Ebene der zweiten Wandfläche versetzbar ist, so dass eine Endkante des Hauptabschnitts an die erste Wandfläche (16) anstößt und der Schulterabschnitt (36, 38) neben einer der Rückhaltelaschen (50) steht, wenn die Schachtel aufgerichtet ist.
9. Zuschnitt nach Anspruch 8, wobei der Hauptabschnitt (34) der Stützlasche (30) gelenkig mit der zweiten Wandfläche (12) entlang einer Faltlinie (32) verbunden ist und der Schulterabschnitt (36, 38) mit dem Hauptabschnitt gelenkig verbunden ist, wobei eine Kante (44, 46) des Schulterabschnitts von der Faltlinie beabstandet ist.
10. Verpackung, umfassend wenigstens einen Behäl-

ter, der jeweils einen im Wesentlichen zylindrischen oberen Abschnitt und einen von dem oberen Abschnitt radial abstehenden Teil einschließt; und eine Schachtel, in der der wenigstens eine Behälter untergebracht ist und die eine Deckenwandfläche (12) aufweist, die über dem oberen Abschnitt des wenigstens einen Behälters angeordnet ist, wobei die Deckenwandfläche eine daraus ausgestanzte Stützlasche (30) aufweist, wobei die Stützlasche einen Hauptabschnitt (34) umfasst, der entlang einer ersten Faltlinie (32) gelenkig mit der Deckenwandfläche (12) verbunden ist, sowie einen Schulterabschnitt (36, 38), der entlang einer zweiten Faltlinie (40, 42) gelenkig mit dem Hauptabschnitt verbunden ist, die sich quer zu der ersten Faltlinie erstreckt, wobei die Stützlasche entlang der ersten und zweiten Faltlinien gefaltet ist, so dass eine Kante (44, 46) des Schulterabschnitts in In-Eingriffnahme mit einer Unterseite des radial abstehenden Teils eines der wenigstens einen Behälter angeordnet ist, wobei die Last des einen Behälters direkt auf die Deckenwandfläche (12) übertragen wird, wenn die Verpackung an der Deckenwandfläche angehoben wird.

11. Verpackung nach Anspruch 10, wobei die Schachtel eine röhrenförmige Struktur aufweist und der Hauptabschnitt (34) der Stützlasche (30) in das Innere der Schachtel gefaltet ist.
12. Verpackung nach Anspruch 10 oder 11, wobei die Kante (44, 46) des Schulterabschnitts (36, 38) eine obere Kante des Schulterabschnitts ist, die von der Deckenwandfläche (12) beabstandet ist.
13. Verpackung nach einem der Ansprüche 10 bis 12, wobei der Hauptabschnitt (34) zwischen dem einen Behälter und einem angrenzenden Behälter angeordnet ist, um die relative Bewegung zwischen dem einen und angrenzenden Behältern zu minimieren.
14. Verpackung nach einem der Ansprüche 10 bis 13, wobei die Schachtel von einem oberteilgreifenden Typ ist, mit einer Bodenwandfläche (16) gegenüberliegend der Deckenwandfläche (12) und wobei die Stützlasche (30) an die Bodenwandfläche anstößt, um die relative Bewegung zwischen der Decken- und der Bodenwandfläche zu minimieren.
15. Zuschnitt zum Ausbilden einer Verpackung nach einem der Ansprüche 10 bis 14.

Revendications

1. Carton d'emballage du type à serrage par le haut destiné à contenir plusieurs récipients, lequel carton d'emballage a une structure tubulaire et com-

porte un premier et un second panneaux espacés (16, 12), ledit premier panneau ayant une pluralité d'ouvertures (70, 102) servant à recevoir lesdits récipients, au moins une languette de retenue pliante (48, 50) articulée avec ledit premier panneau pour venir coopérer au contact du dessous d'une partie radialement saillante de l'un, respectif, desdits récipients, ledit deuxième panneau (12) comportant une languette de support (30) détachée dudit deuxième panneau. **caractérisé en ce que** ladite languette de support comporte une partie principale (34) articulée audit deuxième panneau et une première partie formant épaulement (36) articulée à ladite partie principale de façon à venir au contact dudit dessous de ladite partie radialement saillante d'un desdits récipients afin de limiter le mouvement dudit deuxième panneau par rapport audit premier récipient.

2. Carton d'emballage selon la revendication 1, dans lequel chaque dite ouverture est définie par une paire de dites languettes de retenue (48, 50) détachées dudit premier panneau (16), lesdites languettes de retenue étant disposées dans des positions sensiblement opposées, au moins l'une desdites pattes de retenue (48, 50) ayant une encoche peu profonde pour recevoir un bord (44, 46) de ladite partie formant épaulement (36, 38) pour permettre audit bord d'atteindre ladite partie radialement saillante dudit premier récipient.
3. Carton d'emballage selon la revendication 1 ou 2, dans lequel ladite languette de support (30) comporte en outre une deuxième partie formant épaulement (38) destinée à venir au contact du dessous d'une partie radialement saillante d'un récipient adjacent audit premier récipient, ladite deuxième partie formant épaulement étant disposée de manière opposée à ladite première partie formant épaulement (36).
4. Carton d'emballage selon les revendications 1 à 3, dans lequel ladite partie principale (34) de ladite languette de support (30) est rabattue vers l'intérieur dudit carton d'emballage.
5. Carton d'emballage selon les revendications 1 à 4, dans lequel ladite partie formant épaulement (36, 38) est espacée par rapport audit panneau supérieur (12).
6. Carton d'emballage selon les revendications 1 à 5, dans lequel ladite partie principale (34) est disposée entre ledit premier récipient et un récipient adjacent pour limiter le mouvement relatif entre ledit premier récipient et les récipients adjacents.
7. Carton d'emballage selon les revendications 1 à 6,

- dans lequel ladite languette de support (30) bute contre ledit premier panneau (16) afin de limiter le mouvement relatif entre lesdits premier et deuxième panneaux.
8. Ebauche à plat (10) d'une seule pièce pour former un carton d'emballage du type à serrage par le haut qui comprend un premier panneau (16) ayant une pluralité d'ouvertures (70, 72) définie chacune en partie par au moins une languette de retenue pliante (48, 50) reliée de manière articulée audit premier panneau (16) pour être pliée hors d'un plan général dudit premier panneau, et un deuxième panneau (12) espacé dudit premier panneau par un panneau intermédiaire (14) et ayant une languette de support (30) détachée de celui-ci, ladite languette de support comportant une partie principale (34) et une partie formant épaulement (36, 38), **caractérisée en ce que** ladite languette de support est déplaçable vers l'extérieur d'un plan dudit deuxième panneau de façon qu'un bord d'extrémité de ladite partie principale bute contre ledit premier panneau et que ladite partie formant épaulement (36, 38) soit juxtaposée à l'une desdites languettes de retenue (50) lorsque ledit carton d'emballage est déployé.
9. Ebauche selon la revendication 8, dans laquelle ladite partie principale (34) de ladite languette de support (30) est articulée avec ledit deuxième panneau (12) le long d'une pliure (32), et ladite partie formant épaulement (36, 38) est articulée avec ladite partie principale, un bord (44, 46) de ladite partie formant épaulement étant espacé par rapport à ladite pliure.
10. Emballage comprenant au moins un récipient comportant chacun une partie supérieure sensiblement cylindrique et une partie faisant radialement saillie depuis ladite partie supérieure ; et un carton d'emballage recevant ledit au moins un récipient et ayant un panneau supérieur (12) disposé par-dessus ladite partie supérieure dudit au moins un récipient, dans lequel ledit panneau supérieur a une languette de support (30) détachée de celui-ci, ladite languette de support comportant une partie principale (34) articulée avec ledit panneau supérieur (12) le long d'une première pliure (32) et une partie formant épaulement (36, 38) articulée avec ladite partie principale le long d'une deuxième pliure (40, 42) s'étendant transversalement par rapport à ladite première pliure, ladite languette de support étant pliée le long desdites première et deuxième pliures de façon qu'un bord (44, 46) de ladite partie formant épaulement soit disposé au contact du dessous de ladite partie radialement saillante de l'un ou des récipients, grâce à quoi la charge exercée par ledit récipient est directement transmise audit panneau supérieur (12) lorsqu'on soulève ledit emballage à l'aide dudit panneau supérieur.
11. Emballage selon la revendication 10, dans lequel ledit carton d'emballage a une structure tubulaire et ladite partie principale (34) de ladite languette de support (30) est rabattue vers l'intérieur dudit carton d'emballage.
12. Emballage selon la revendication 10 ou la revendication 11, dans lequel ledit bord (44, 46) dudit épaulement (36, 38) est un bord supérieur dudit épaulement espacé par rapport audit panneau supérieur (12).
13. Emballage selon l'une quelconque des revendications 10 à 12, dans lequel ladite partie principale (34) est disposée entre ledit premier récipient et un récipient adjacent afin de limiter le mouvement relatif entre ledit premier récipient et ledit récipient adjacent.
14. Emballage selon l'une quelconque des revendications 10 à 13, dans lequel ledit carton d'emballage est du type à serrage par le haut, ayant un panneau de base (16) opposé audit panneau supérieur (12), et ladite languette de support (30) bute contre ledit panneau de base afin de limiter le mouvement relatif entre ledit panneau supérieur et ledit panneau de base.
15. Ebauche à plat pour former un emballage selon l'une quelconque des revendications 10 à 14.

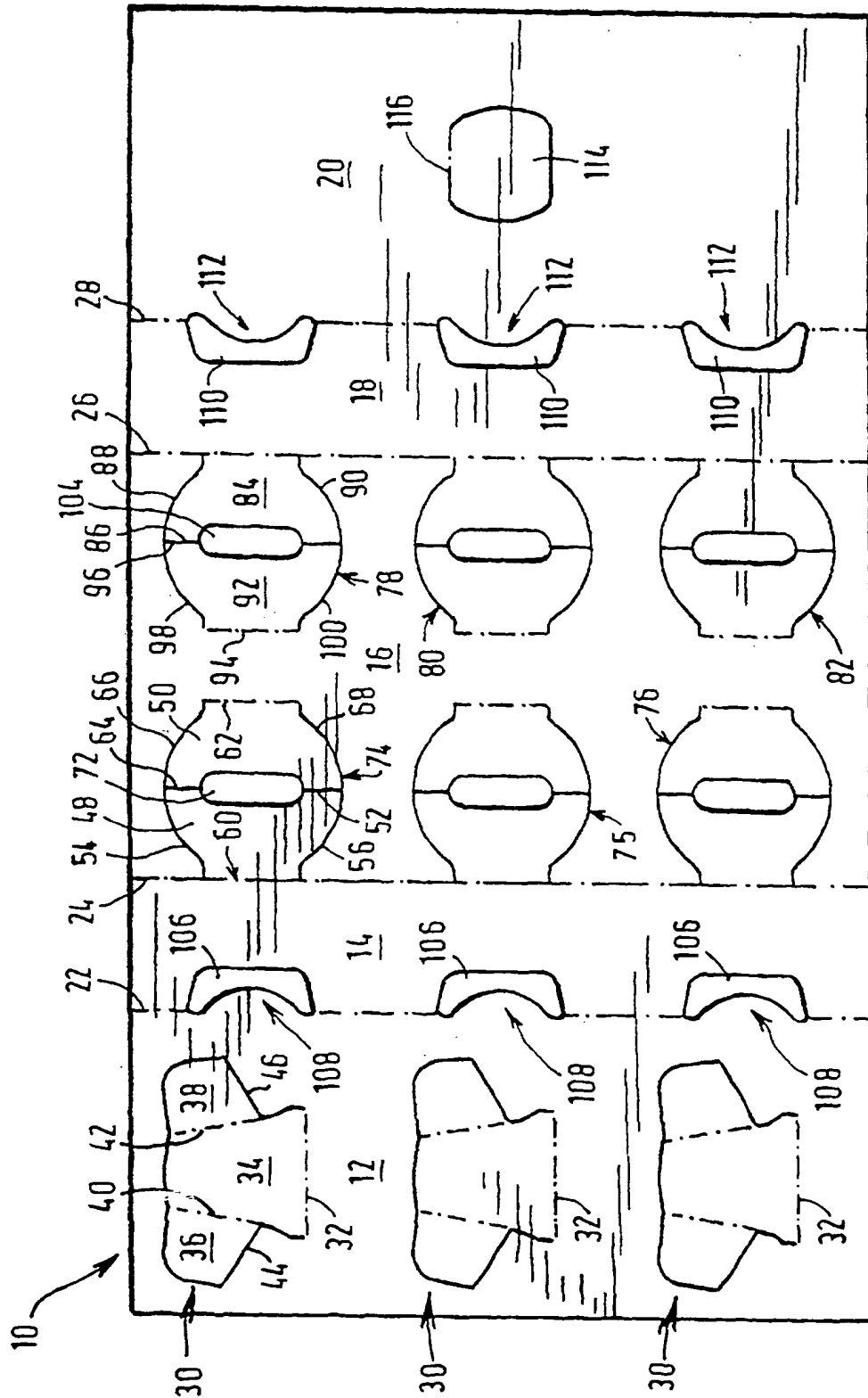


FIG. 1

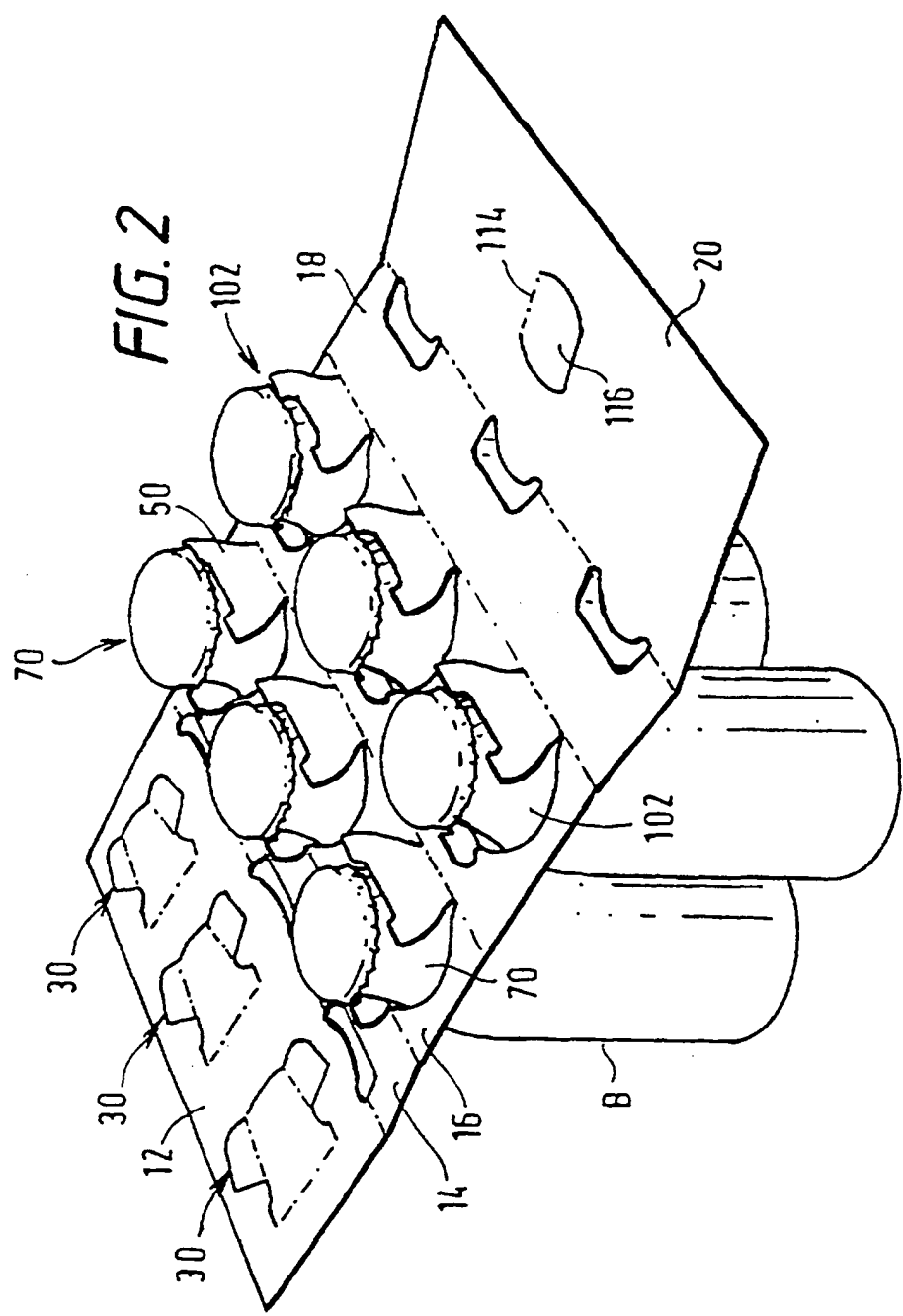


FIG. 3

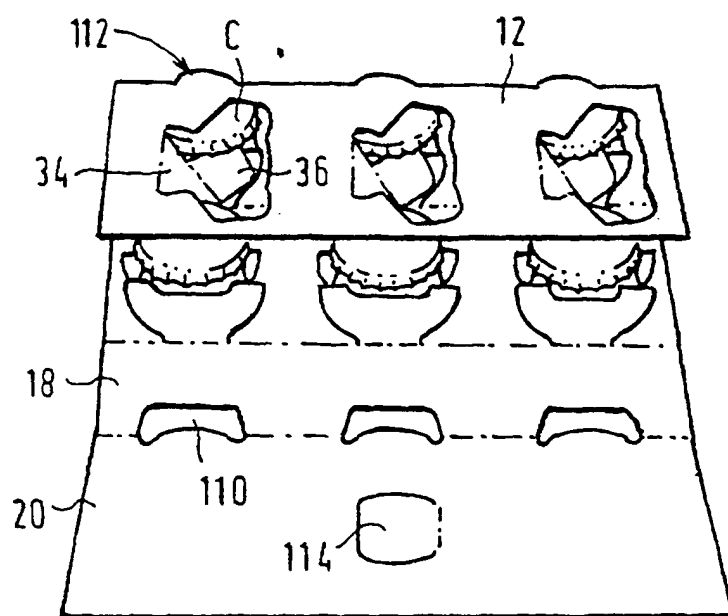


FIG. 4

